Message Text

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R 260115Z MAR 75 FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI TO USIA WASHDC INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4565 AMEMBASSY TOKYO AMCONSUL HONG KONG USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, TW

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT

- 1. SUMMARY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION OFFICE DIRECTOR FRED CHIEN TOLD ARRIVAL PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 24 FOLLOWING FIVE-WEEK U.S. TOUR MANY U.S. CONGRESSMEN AND GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS AND MEDIA LEADERS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED ROC'S SELF-RELIANCE AND FIGHTING SPIRIT, BUT WARNED MAOISTS STEPPING UP U.S. INFILTRATION ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY.
- 2. CHIEN REPORTEDLY TOLD LOCAL MEDIA UPON RETURN FROM FIVE-WEEK TOUR 14 U.S. STATES AND 24 CITIES AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN AND GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS AND JOURNALISTIC LEADERS HAVE FAVORABLE IMPRESSION AND DEEP UNDERSTANDING ROC'S SELF-RELIANCE AND VIGOROUS FIGHTING SPIRIT. MANY U.S. INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL LEADERS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS CONTINUE EXPANDINGINVESTMENTS TAIWAN DUE FAVORABLE INVESTMENT CLIMATE. UNCLASSIFIED

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- 3. LARGEST CIRCULATION UNITED DAILY NEWS (320,000) QUOTED CHIEN WARNING AGAINST ROC CARELESSNESS SINCE MAOISTS GREATLY STEPPING UP U.S. INFILTRATION ACTIVITIES. CITED LEFTIST "U.S.-MAOIST PEOPLES AMITY ASSOCIATION" LOS ANGELES WHICH HE SAID HAD ESTABLISHED OVER 40 BRANCH OFFICES THROUGHOUT U.S. OVER SHORT PERIOD.
- 4. CHIEN ENCOURAGED BY FACT MANY FRIENDLY AMERICANS NOW BEGINNING SPEAK OUT SUPPORT ROC IN CONGRESS AND STATE LEGISLATURES. CHIEN SAID ASSURED BY ONE CONGRESSMAN "THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A FREE CHINA SO LONG AS THERE IS A FREE AMERICA." HE WAS CONVINCED MANY OTHER AMERICANS SHARE SAME FEELING; THEREFORE, OUTSIDE DIFFICULTIES CAN BE OVERCOME AS LONG AS ROC REMAINS DEMOCRATIC AND FREE AND CONTINUES TO GROW PROSPEROUSLY. CLARKE

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